The Logger's Bark
RADIO CLUB of TACOMA

SEPTEMBER 2023 VOLUME 20 ISSUE 09 ©Radio Club of Tacoma W7DK

FROM THE EDITOR!

So… Here we are again. September was a fairly busy month.

Hopefully everyone is ready for a good winter season with (we hope) good radio conditions.

Elections for RCT officers is coming up in November. At the time of this writing, the slate is still open but it will close after the general meeting in October. So, if you ever wanted to try being a "mover and shaker!" here's your chance.

On that note, I have been asked to stand for club secretary. I will do that, but it would be a bit too much to be the club secretary and the Loggers Bark editor at the same time.

So here's your chance: if you want to do the newsletter, simply let the President or any other officer know and take it from there. I have not seen or know of any particular requirements for the job other than a familiarity with desktop publishing software like MS Publisher or similar.

Unfortunately, the editing software will be on the incoming editor to provide. RCT used to have a club copy of Publisher, but that was many years ago. When I took on the job, I subscribed to MS Office 365, under duress. There are most likely other programs out there to do the job. Candidates choice!

So, if you've been chomping at the bit to replace that darned

current know-nothing editor, here's your chance!

73 Gary WG7X

Editor RCT's Loggers Bark (for now!)

Page 1: Editors report.

Page 2: Board of Directors meeting minutes.

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Page 20: Elmer Board.

Radio Club of Tacoma

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

September 6, 2023

Meeting called to order at 7pm local time by President Mike W7XTZ

Officers and Directors Present

President: Mike Mikuchonis W7XTZ

Vice President: Adam Barbera W2NCC

Secretary: Mike Drorbaugh W7MKE

Treasurer: Steve Dightman AF7YD

Board: Bruce Hanson WE7P

Board: Paul Matney W7PFU

Board: Doug Schafer AB7DG

Board: Red Cranefield WB7EC

Board: Phil Pia K7PIA

Quorum? All officers and Board Members were present and a total of 21 members attended in person or via

Zoom. The attendance list is attached.

Silent Key or Illness?

• Joe K7ZG reports he spent one week in August in St. Anthony's Hospital in Gig Harbor for a breathing problem—shortness of breath—that limits Joe's ability to get around. Joe is now recovering slowly but feeling better and is improving day by day.

• PJ Hicks N7PH took some falls and ended up in the hospital but is now recovering in a rehabilitation facility.

Approval of Minutes of August 2, 2023 RCT BOD meeting as distributed. The minutes were approved without objections.

Secretary's Report (W7MKE) Several returns for Salmon run and some new or renewing membership. All other

correspondence was routine bills and magazines.

Treasurer's Report (AF7YD)

Steve AF7YD submitted a written report that is available on the website to members once approved at the next BOD meeting.

Steve pointed out that so far this year expenses over income are $X.X K. However, we are just approaching our major income period with Salmon run and membership renewals, so perhaps by year's end the deficit may be less. He further pointed out some of the account manipulations at Chase Bank resulted in extra fees. He's had to transfer funds from one account to another to

mitigate this. There was a general discussion about using different banks or credit unions. There seemed to be pros and cons for either type of institution.

Unfinished Business Insurance Inventory update **(Steve AF7YD & Manny AD7MA)**

Steve reports that it is on his agenda to get it done this week. Manny is a loss specialist so is willing to assist with creating an inventory for insurance.

New Business

• Discussion of what to do with SK boards, remove and replace with memorial page on website? **(W7MKE)**

The main reason for removing the SK boards from the training room wall is there is no longer room to add more boards and we are running out of room for more names. Two alternatives that have been proposed are to have a memorial page on the web-site and the other is to have a video display monitor located on a wall that could scroll through the SKs or other information like current or historical events. George K7GRS stated that the library committee has already decided to have a video display back near the Doug DeMaw library that would do this.

Also, several people indicated that we could do both, have a video display and a memorial page. There were comments from some who strongly wanted to retain the current boards as they display our long history and heritage more than a video display or web page will. No decision was made. Mike W7XTZ stated "we will have to take this up later and setup something for action."

Standing Rules committee report to BOD: (W7MKE)

A copy of the work of the Standing Rules committee was available for discussion. There was considerable discussion about various provisions, however, in the end Doug AB7DG moved to accept the standing rules as presented so long as a date was put on each paragraph so that changes can be tracked. Motion was seconded byAdam W2NCC. After further discussion, the Board voted unanimously to accept the proposed Standing Rules.

Rules to go into effect as soon as published. Randy WB4SPB indicated he would put it on the website once he received a copy. The Board allowed that modifications to the Standing Rules could be brought up as an item of business at any Board Meeting.

Committee / Reports

Membership & Salmon Run Pledge Drive (W7XH)

Mike W7XH reported membership at 316 members. Mike indicated our core expenses are about $XX K. Roughly, membership dues account for about $X.XK currently. That leaves about a $X.XK short fall. To make dues equal core costs, we'd have to

increase dues by about $18 each, and this is just to support core costs, not including activities like Field Day, printing, equipment or facility repairs, etc. Dues increases sufficient to cover core expenses are not likely to happen. Thus, the need for PMT and Salmon run to support the club's expenses. PMT has been great over the last few years but does not cover all the shortfall. In Salmon Run Drive so far this year, 54 people have pledged about $XXXX with some pledges still to be added based on our performance during the SR event. We also have in like kind donations of around $XXXX. We hope many more members will contribute

even with just a small donation. Mike thanked all those who pledged to support the club.

Training (AD7AB)

Request to use W7DK October 10, 11, 12 for High School Tech Training (Becky Friedman NG7FZH & Sam Mulvey N9MII)

Becky addressed the Board to discuss the event. She shared about Camp Quest Northwest which are summer camps. (See Http://www.ktqa.org/cqnw.pdf) She shared a proposed schedule, and we basically were very receptive to the idea, but we need Stephen AD7AB's input and acceptance before finalizing the schedule.

VE (John AC7WW)

After mailing (USPS) Exam results to the ARRL for almost 20 years, your VE Team has decided to file the exam results

electronically. The July 2023 session took 2 weeks to reach the ARRL. The exam session of August 8th was uploaded August 9th

and call signs were granted August 10th. At our August 8th session, seven candidates attended, sixteen elements were graded.

Three Technicians joined the amateur service. Two candidates passed both element 2 and 3 to become Generals and two

candidates upgraded to General.

Thanks to the following for their service and time.

Rich, KK7VH Mike, W7XH; Rob, K7TGU; Stephen, AD7AB; Whit, KG7LNZ.

Your VE Team traveled South to JBLM on August 31st to test 10 candidates. Nineteen elements were graded. Nine

Technicians joined the Amateur Service with one candidate that did not earn an initial license.

Thanks to the following for their service and time.

Jan, K7HTU Rob, K7TGU, Stephen, AD7AB Steven, AI7QM.

The next scheduled test session is Tuesday, September 12th, 7:00 PM

HF Operations (K7PIA)

Phil reports the Flex is still in for repairs with an unknown date of completion. Good DX available with good stuff coming up. Gary WG7X recently rejoined the HF committee. Phil has moved the KPA500 over to the Elecraft station where the Flex formerly was located.

Salmon Run Plan (W2NCC)

Adam W2NCC reported that he's communicating with some people about operating for the SR. If you're interested contact Adam. Randy WB4SPB suggested we use the museums SB200 amplifier with the 7610. So, we think we can have amplifiers for both radios running about 400 watts.

Facilities Management (W2NCC)

Adam has updated the AED with new batteries and pads. We have the garage roof upcoming the week of the 23-24th. The gate to the side parking lot is damaged and Adam received a quote for parts to replace the gate for $366 for a 14' gate with 180-degree swing opening out. Adam also has contacts with contractors who can do the installation and Adam will try to have a complete estimate by the next meeting.

Property Management (WB7EC)

Red WB7EC reports PMT income in August was $75.

General Meeting (W7UUU)

Dave W7UUU reported that the general meeting program will be on emergency preparedness by Lynn Burlingame N7CPO.

Activity Reports, Discussion Topics, Announcements

• BJ Rollison WA7WJR announced he would be at Kopachuck State Park next Sunday September 10th for a POTA event.

• Manny AD7MA has agreed to become the clubhouse host for the first Saturday of each month.

• Regarding Frank J. Billington III W7FJB RCT 1330 (SK) George K7GRS explained that membership received an email from Frank's wife explaining that she had left a voice message last February about Frank'spassing and with information about his memorial service in April. She received no response from anyone at W7DK nor did anyone attend his memorial. Then, recently she received the Salmon Run pledge.

Obviously, she was confused and upset about this. George and Mike W7XH, both contacted her independently and apologized. The fallout is that someone needs to monitor the voice mail and distribute the messages appropriately. Mike W7MKE stated he was responsible for this happening as it is his responsibility as Secretary to monitor the phone messages. He indicated he will remember to do that in future.

Adjournment at: 9:28

Michael Drorbaugh -W7MKE

Secretary

Radio Club of Tacoma

General meeting minutes

September 13th 2023

Officers and Directors Present

President: Mike Mikuchonis W7XTZ

Vice President: Adam Barbera W2NCC

Secretary: Mike Drorbaugh W7MKE

Treasurer: Steve Dightman AF7YD

Board: Doug Schafer AB7DG

Meeting Called to Order at 7pm local by President Mike W7XTZ

Flag Salute Led by President Mike W7XTZ

Quorum? A quorum was not present. Twenty voting members attend via zoom or at the clubhouse. A total of twenty-three people attended the meeting. The attendance list is attached.

Welcome and Acknowledgement of New Members and Visitors

Bob Hammons WR8BT visited our meeting. He is from Ohio and visiting his son here. Also, our presenter Lynn Burlingame N7CFO was present via Zoom. Lynn lives in Bellevue, WA.

Health and Welfare/Silent Key & Illness

Frank J Billington III W7FJB, who passed away in February, was a lifetime member RCT #1320 and active in the club for over 30 years.

Leonard KA7NWF, told us that he recently tested positive for Covid but has recovered and now has tested clear.

PROGRAM: Dave W7UUU introduced Lynn Burlingame N7CFO a program coordinator for ARRL: The program was on preparing for emergencies and a $100 emergency preparedness kit. Clearly emergencies can happen at any time and at any place, so some preparedness is prudent.

Lynn's program will be available online at W7DK.org.

Secretary's Report:

Mike W7MKE reported that the committee working on our Standing Rules presented their work to the Board last week. After discussion, the Board accepted the document to go into effect when published on the website. Randy WB4SPB is proofreading the document and will publish it when done. The RCT Board approves Standing Rules but has directed that any member may submit to the Board recommendations for additions, corrections, or deletions which the Board will consider and adopt or reject.

The upcoming business of the club is elections, please consider running for office.

The Salmon Run drive is ongoing, we are hoping to get at least 100 members to pledge. Any amount is welcome. Salmon Run is the official Washington State QSO party and is this upcoming Saturday.

Election ballots and membership renewals will go out shortly after the October membership meeting. There may be a referendum on the ballot about what to do with our SK boards posted in the training room. We are running out of room on the boards and do not really have the wall space to add more. Two alternative proposals are to make a memorial page on the website or to have a video display monitor that scrolls through SK names, obituaries, historical events, etc. The library committee has plans to do something like this with a video display so perhaps both a memorial page and a video memorial will both be possible whether we abandon the current SK boards or not.

Treasurer's Report:

Steve AF7YD indicated that all bills are current. This year because we had deferred maintenance on the clubhouse and burglary losses so as of the end of August, we have spent $9.4K more than our income. On the plus side, we are now heading into two of our major income streams with the Salmon Run Drive and membership renewals. Steve anticipates that we should reduce this deficit considerably but may not end the year with income equaling spending.

Committee / Activity Reports

Membership / Salmon Run Drive (W7XH/K7GRS)

Mike W7XH reported our membership stands at 316 members. Currently for Salmon Run we have 76 donors.

Training (AD7AB)

Stephen AD7AB reported he has 9 students signed up for October and 4 for November. He is currently working with Sam Mulvey N9MII and Becky Friedman KG7FZH to host high school aged kids at a RCT clubhouse lock in and training for amateur licenses. The proposal is to have the kids November 9 – 12. The issue to resolve is the requirement that adults here with the kids must have background checks, which creates a problem if the regular November class is open to the public as it now is. See (Http://www.ktqa.org/cqnw.pdf) for more information about the program.

VE Report (AC7WW)

John AC7WW submitted the following written report: Tuesday, September 12, 2023, your VE Team graded 15 exams. Four new Technicians joined the Amateur Service. Three candidates upgraded to General. One candidate upgraded to Extra.

Thanks to the following for their service and time.

Rich, KK7VH	Mike, W7XH
Rob, K7TGU	Dave, K7FI
Stephen, AD7AB	Whit, KG7LNZ

The next scheduled test session is Tuesday, Oct. 10TH 2023. Time to be determined.

HF Operations (Adam W2NCC)

Upcoming Salmon Run Contesting: contest starts at 9am Saturday until 5pm Sunday. See Adam if you are interested in helping, slots are open for Sunday.

IT Report / 4th Wednesday Activity (WB4SPB)

Randy WB4SPB reports all systems nominal. No topic for 4th Wednesday yet.

Facilities Management (W2NCC)

Adam said we may get the garage roof replacement the weekend of September 23. Also, next month Adam will have a bid for the Board on fixing the gate to the side parking lot.

New Business

Nominating Committee Report (see Bylaws 4A/4C) Randy WB4SPB submitted a written report as follows:

The 2023 Nominating Committee, having identified a candidate for each of the club's elected positions expiring this year, has completed its work.

The following comprise the initial slate of candidates that will stand for election or re-election this year:

VP: Adam Barbera W2NCC (incumbent)

Secretary: Gary McAdams WG7X

Board: Doug Schafer AB7DG (incumbent)

Paul Matney W7PFU (incumbent)

Mike Drorbaugh W7MKE

The Nominating Committee members were:

Randy Myers WB4SPB chair

Alan Ferguson N7OMS

Doug Oakman AD7AV

Call for nominations: See Bylaws 4A/4C

Mike W7XTZ called for nominations three times: hearing none, nominations were closed at this time and will be open again at the October membership meeting. You may nominate yourself. You may not nominate anyone without their approval. Board members must be members in good standing for one year. Club officers must be members in good standing for two years. Please consider serving.

Announcements/show and tell/ traffic & Tuning

Walt WA7SDY reported he posted a Baofeng UV 5X3, a 3-band HT for sale on the bulletin board.

Dave W7UUU reported today he made a 10m FT8 contact with a 1-man DXpedition C21TS on Nauru Island. Another unusual contact was on 12m with a United Nation station in NYC, 4U1UN which is considered a DX entity and you must send to Switzerland for the QSL card.

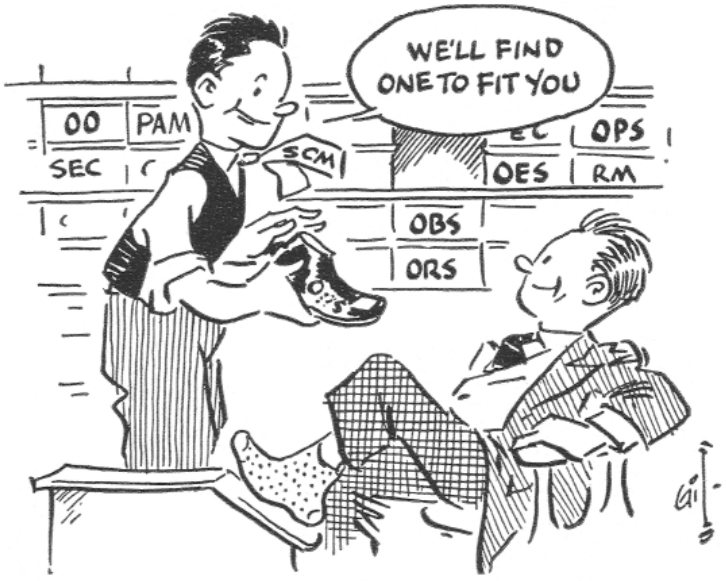
Sam N9MII mentioned they contacted W1AW/P from New Hampshire this summer, and he wanted to know what this was about. Dave W7UUU explained this was a Volunteer On The Air contact with a W1AW/P volunteer. A contact with the Newington headquarters would not have a /P designation and would just be W1AW.

Adjournment at 8:16pm local time

Submitted by:

Michael Drorbaugh – W7MKE

RCT Secretary



QRZ

by Dave W7UUU

News you can use!

This month's topic: Part 2—How does the QRZ Swapmeet work?

Hello everyone and welcome back to the QRZ News You can Use column! As a staffer of the largest ham radio site in the world and Director of the QRZ Forums, every month I hope to bring you behind-the-scenes info on the workings of this great web site that most hams use in one way or another.

This month's column is part two of the September column, and will explain how internet scams typically work and how to avoid getting taken. Theft can happen on QRZ, eHam, QTH.com, Facebook Marketplace, you name it—but for this discussion we'll of course be focusing on how such scams get perpetrated in the QRZ Swapmeet.

There are essentially just two paths the so-called hackers take: Phishing schemes, where they fool an account user into handing over their login credentials, and then go on to create fake ads; or imposters, who simply claim to be a ham and use a seldom-used call sign from QRZ to post fake ads on other sites like Facebook, QTH, and eHam.

Phishing happens when the scammer sends out a very cleverly written email to an account user, claiming to be an Administrator at QRZ "verifying their login credentials". Unwitting recipients simply click the link in the email to "verify" their account, and hand over their username and password. The scammer then logs into the account, changes the password and email, and starts listing ads for ham gear they of course don't even own. And they demand payment in forms that are usually non-refundable: Paypal "Friends & Family", Venmo, CashApp, etc… all services designed for family members to send money to each other but were never intended for buying goods and services.

But in recent years, QRZ began offering "Second Factor Authorization" or 2FA as it's called. 2FA requires users to use a second device such as a cell phone or a piece of software and be sent a code to confirm their login. I'm sure most reading this have had to set up a 2FA account at their banks or other online services. The security comes in the fact the users must have actual physical possession of the 2FA device (cell phone) or software app. Lacking that second factor of ID, no login is possible. Once QRZ instituted this system, the incidence of Phishing attacks dropped significantly. In addition, QRZ closed the entire

Swapmeet to non-paid users—scammers are no longer able to even see ads unless they are a paid user. Even the "Ham Gear Wanted" forum requires a paid account to view, so scammers can no longer email folks looking for gear and pitch fake deals on them to steal their cash.

Simple "user impersonation" is the primary path scammers take these days and it works like this: the scammer simply scans the nearly-one-million users looking for unclaimed or seldom-used accounts. Accounts that have few "lookups", don't have an email listed, or look otherwise unused. Then they steal that user's name and call sign, create a fake Gmail or Yahoo email that sounds believable (john.aa7abt@yahoo.com etc.), and start listing stuff for sale on other sites such as QTH.com, eHam, and Facebook. Most hams will then look up the user on QRZ, and think the account is legit because they have a QRZ presence which lends a lot of credence to many naïve buyers.

So how to avoid all of this? The single simple answer is: demand a phone call! Why a phone call and not just an email? Because 90% of the scammers are not even in the USA. They are in Nigeria, Czech Republic, Romania, and many other countries. They don't speak English! They will use translation services to craft emails and send texts. And the moment you ask them for a phone call, they will say "I have a voice injury and cannot talk on the phone" or "I'm sorry but my phone is not working right now but I can text". Trust me—I've seen every possible variation of this happen to users.

But let's assume you DO manage to get a phone call with the "seller". Start asking questions only a real ham and owner of the item could possibly know. If it's an Icom IC-7300, ask them "how well does it work on the Marine bands?" or "Does it have the 1000 watt module installed?", "Do all of the video inputs work for TV reception as well as ham radio reception?". Scammers will simply not know these things and just give quick answers like "yes it has all of this" - and of course you now know it's not a real owner and you just saved $1000 of your hard-earned money.

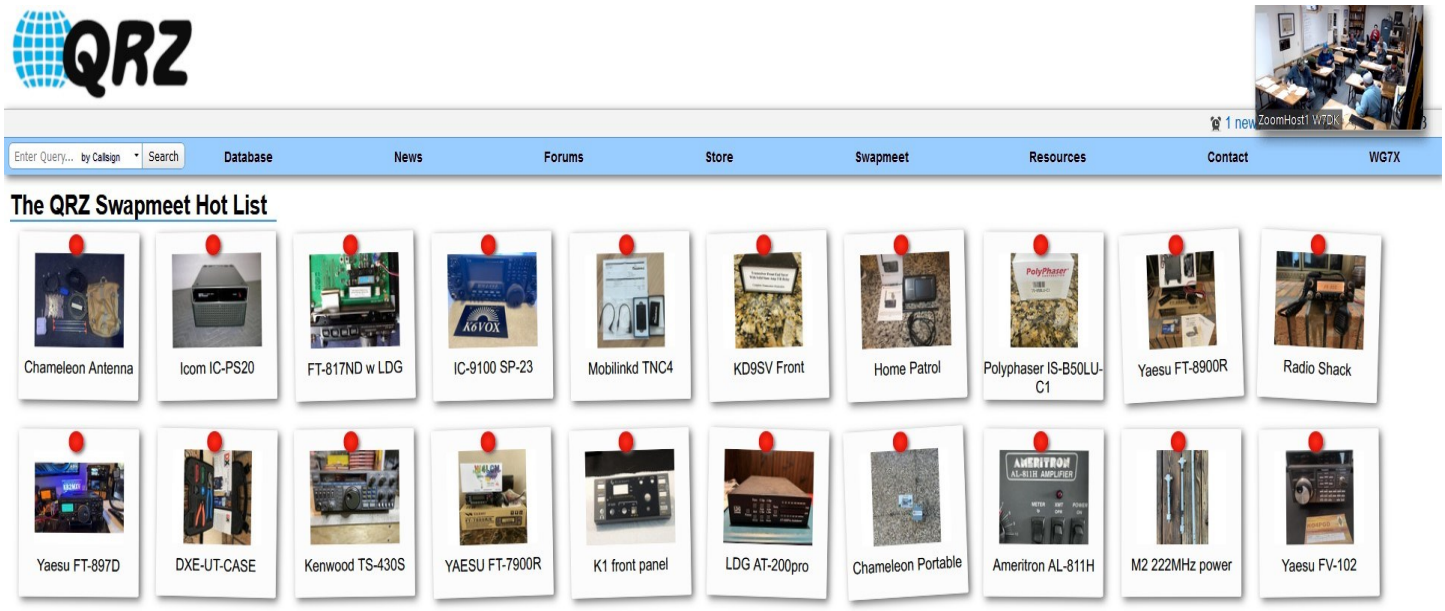
And speaking of money, scammers love to use the payment forms I mentioned earlier—very commonly Paypal Friends & Family. The reason that payment method is so popular with scammers is many naïve buyers think "Paypal always means buyers are protected" but not realize that if you pay with Friends & Family, there are zero buyer protections because F&F is only intended for "friends and family members to send money to each other". Buyers figure cash and checks are always a risk but "heck he said Paypal so I thought I was safe". So bottom line: never ever pay a seller for an item using Friends & Family (or Venmo or CashApp or Google Pay, etc. etc.) unless they really are a friend or a family member—because it's no different than cash. If you get stung, there is no recourse and you are out the money.

There are many other nuances to this topic, but that's all the high points in my limited column space. As a buyer, just always assume "someone is out to scam you" when dealing with strangers on the internet—even if they are fellow hams! Hams are people and people can be crooks. And as explained, scammers will try to fool buyers into trusting a fellow ham by simply stealing his identity (call sign).

Next month, I will explain how the QRZ call sign database works: how call signs get entered into it, how and under what circumstances they get removed.

Until then, thanks for reading and 73!

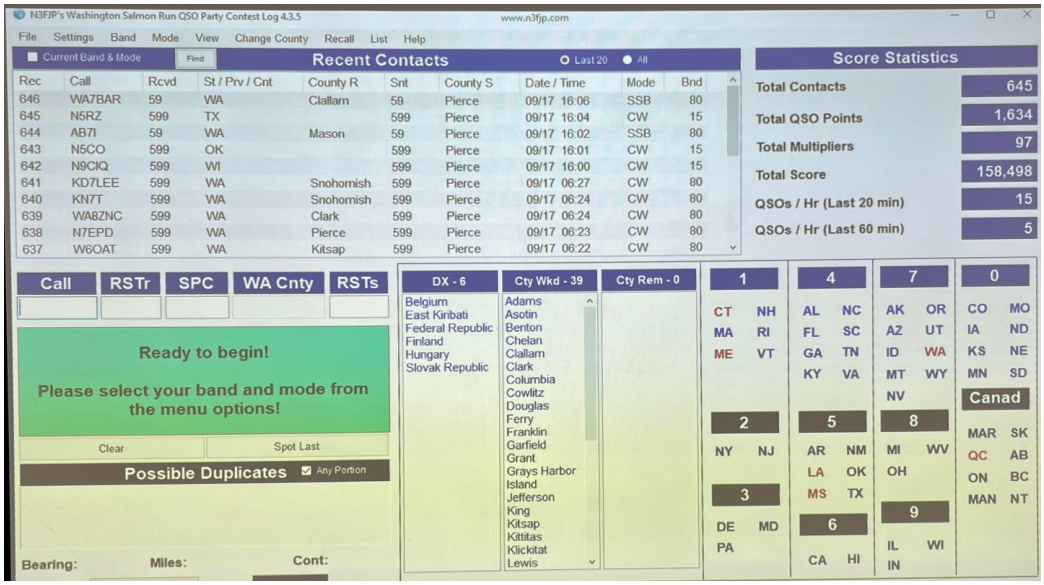
Dave
W7UUU



Salmon run 2023 report by Adam W2NCC

Salmon Run is a major fund-raising activity for the club. Some of the donations are dependent on getting a clean sweep and or working all 50 states. This year's Salmon Run was run more like a contest allowing club members who are interested in developing their skills to get on the radio in a team setting.

If was fun getting the mighty W7DK on the air. One of the highlights of the event was securing a clean Sweep Saturday night. Columbia was the last county we needed for a clean Sweep. Around 10PM Saturday night a ham activated Columbia County to give us and many other Salmon Run participants a clean sweep!


N3FJP's Washington Salmon Run QSO Party Contest Log 4.3.5
www.n3fjp.com
File Settings Band Mode View Change County Recall List Help
Recent Contacts
Score Statistics
Total Contacts 645
Total QSO Points 1,634
Total Multipliers 97
Total Score 158,498
QSOs / Hr (Last 20 min) 15
QSOs / Hr (Last 60 min) 5
Call RSTr SPC WA Cnty RSTs
Ready to begin!
Please select your band and mode from the menu options!
Clear Spot Last
Possible Duplicates Any Portion
Bearing: Miles: Cont:
DX - 6
Cty Wkd - 39
Cty Rem - 0

N3FJP logging software. Close of Saturday night.

We worked all of the Canadian provinces. It was an awesome feeling working the Northern Territories and the Maritime Province (includes Nova Scotia & Prince Edward Island). What was interesting was working Quebec last. I would have thought Quebec would have been worked early in the contest, however, Quebec was logged Sunday. All 50 states were worked. There was some DX happening that weekend, and 7 DX stations were logged.

Dan Ransom K7MM

Adam Barbera W2NCC

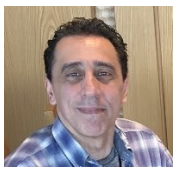
Salmon Run was kicked off with the Flex station setup on the 80-meter and 40-meter antennas. We used a Heathkit SB200 amplifier that was dedicated to 80 meters. The amp was not used when working the 40-meter band. This station was a mix of phone and CW on Saturday.

The club's new Icom IC-7610 started out using the tower triband 20, 15 & 10 antenna. This station had an ICE Model 419B Multi Band Bandpass filter and custom-made heavy duty common choke on loan from W2NCC to help protect the radio.

The Icom radio was paired with a solid state Elecraft KPA500 amp and matching auto tuner. There is a wiring option to provide a BAND Data connection from the AUX port on the IC-7610 to the AUX1 connector on the KPA500. It allows the Amp to follow band changes on the Radio. This cable is not available from Elecraft however, the cable is documented in the KPA500 manual. Digging around the club's parts bins in the garage Dan, KD7SV and I were able to find all of the connectors and wire needed to fabricate a custom cable. With the help of Phil K7PIA we were able build and install a custom cable allowing the KP-500 to follow IC-7610 band changes. This makes for a more comfortable experience, and I believe it has saved operators many times from "Faults" when quickly changing Bands.

Salmon Run was super successful this year. It was awesome to get the new Icom on the air and have club members get in front of the radios. The team worked all Washington counties, all states, all Canadian provinces and a bunch of DX. I want to thank all of the people who made pledges. The team worked hard for you! We may not be eating smoked salmon this year but the team had a lot of fun.

Operators: AD7LJ Bob Purdom, AD7MA Emmanuel (Manny) Adonis, K7MM Dan Ransom, K7PIA Phil Pia, K7ZG Joe Lester, KA7DCX Deanna Jenks, KG7FZH Rebecca Friedman, KK7IJY Jennifer Johnson, KK7IKK Roxanna Maurer, N7OMS Al Ferguson, N9MII Sam Mulvey, W2NCC Adam Barbera, W7ITL Wade Marshall, W7MKE Mike Drorbaugh, W7XH Mike Isakson, W7XTZ Mike Mikuchonis, WB4SPB Randy Myers and WG7X Gary McAdams!



Adam Barbera – W2NCC

MAILBAG; ALL Worth (W7WG sk) EDITION

First, a few messages from the past, from Rich KR7W

Greetings;

I just looked at the new August edition of the RCT Bark newsletter. Kudos and compliments for the Bark to include Photos and captions of activities taking place Around The Clubhouse. Also, for the short tribute to Worth.

But Wait! There's More: Worth accompanied me on Walks in the Woods with a QRP Radio and roll of wire antenna. I don't think I have photos of these outings, but will look.

Worth loved the outdoors and was an avid hiker, you can tell by looking at his boots in the photo below.
He mentioned to me that one of his 'dreams' was to combine ham radio with hiking in the backcountry. A few times I, and sometimes Chuck, were able to assist him with living that dream.

Here's some photos of Worth from 2006 when he accompanied Me and Chuck (AC7QN Ed.) to Dege Peak, in Mt Rainier National Park, for the Fall VHF contest. In addition to 5W QRP VHF, I brought a HF Antenna for Worth to make Contact with his Whiskey Group buddies. He told me that he was in 'Ham Heaven' at 7000 ft elevation.

(Note: Whiskey Group was a social gathering of hams on 75M SSB, at 0730 AM and then at 9 PM. When Pat (WT7N Ed.), Chuck, and I would be out backpacking- we'd check in for the AM session. Worth was the ringleader, sort of like Net Control. Outdoorsy Worth wanted to share our outdoor experience via radio contact.)

On Sourdough Ridge Trail heading toward Dege Peak.

Heading back to the Car. Warmer clothes for downhill hiking.
The gentleman behind Worth is Mike Sexsmith (W7MSX Ed.). Chuck follows Mike.

.

The final ascent.

Part way up the final 3/10 mile to the summit.

End of Message. OUT

Ricky KR7W

Worth in Ham Heaven, atop Dege Peak, chatting with his Whiskey Group buddies on QRP HF.

More from Rich KR7W on Worth… Continued.

From 2003. Worth, Myself, Chuck AC7QN, and Lynn Neese WR7G hiked up to Dege Peak, elevation 7003 ft ASL, in Mt Rainier National Park for the ARRL's Sept VHF Contest. It's about a 3 mile one way hike that gains about 700 ft in elevation. The last 3/10 mile is very steep.

Lynn worked 6 meters
Chucked worked 2M SSB
Rich worked 2M FM, 432 SSB, and HF
Worth worked QRP HF
My records show that we used the W7DK callsign.

Many times... Worth has told me that one of his dreams was to combine his love of being in the mountains with ham radio. This trip to Dege (Day-Gay) Peak was a dream come true for him.

This photo shows our spectacular view. Volunteer Ranger is looking for well behaved hikers

KR7W brought a 23 ft mast that strapped to the 10 ft VHF pipe mast- to support a HF doublet antenna.
Photo shows Worth operating HF, making QSOs with his Whiskey Group social net ham buddies

Worth working on his tan, taking in all of the scenery.
Mast and antenna behind Worth is for 6M.
Mast to the R is the center of the HF doublet antenna.

Chuck generously carried up two collapsible chairs for some comfort.
Antenna is for 144 and 432 MHz.

...And finally, some pictures of Worth in later years, also courtesy of Rich, KR7W

From all of us at Radio club of Tacoma: We all miss you Worth! Happy ham-ming up there in the mountains that you loved so much. Thanks for enlight-ening our lives with your wisdom and laughter.

73 es CUL W7OS dit dit...

MAIL BAG! Part II

First up, from George Salisbury concerning a recent SK that we missed...

"He's the only real father I've ever known!"

An interview by George Salisbury (K7GRS)

Frank J Billingon III (W7FJB), member #1320 of the Radio Club of Tacoma for 33 years – with Lifetime Membership – died on the 11th of February 2023 at 80. Laura, his widow, called in April to inform us of the memorial service plans. Due to an unfortunate break in communication, the Club never received the information. Receiving a mid-August invitation to make a Salmon Run donation prompted Laura to email the Membership Committee. I was troubled in my spirit even after responding by email to her, so called her by phone. We had nearly an hour of conversation in which I shared a heartfelt apology and the reason behind the faux pax.

We had an absolutely delightful conversation in which she repeatedly thanked me for the assurance that it wasn't a deliberate snub. I promised that a card of condolence would come from "Sunshine Dan" Vacanti (KD7SV); Adam Barbera (W2NCC) would reserve a spot in the Silent Keys listings; Frank's QRZ.com record would be updated by Dave Ellison (W7UUU), QRZ Forum Moderator; and editor Gary McAdams (WG7X) would include Frank's story in the Logger's Bark.

Frank was a remarkable guy. His younger years were rough. Laura said his father was a skirt-chaser and had no time for Frank. The stepfather was a mean-spirited individual who told Frank he was stupid and would never be more than a ditch digger. Frank was afflicted with ADHD; ignorant teachers in that day labeled him indolent and scolded him for being lazy.

Finally Frank resolved to improve his lot by joining the Navy. In the end, he joined the U. S. Marines. Home briefly after boot camp, which was mighty rough, Frank's sister said she'd never seen such a change in a person. Frank gave four years of his life in service to our county.

In later years, arriving in Tacoma, he took a job as a garbage collector, soon working up to solid waste management, then moved to Tacoma Power, where he eventually became inspector of facilities, lines and switching stations. He often expressed how he LOVED his job.

And Frank was a family man. A BIG family. Besides raising four of their own children, Laura and Frank added to their four, TEN adoptees – children with learning disabilities, kids who'd been in an out of foster homes, emotionally disturbed – all found loving nurture and admonition. They are now scattered from Maple Valley (Frank and Laura's last home) to Tennessee and eastward – with one in Scotland!

The memorial service was well attended, even without Radio Club presence, and was topped off with a playing of taps and presentation of the American flag by the Navy Honor Guard in their dress blues!

The family's mantra is "We can make a difference in the world."

To quote one adopted son: "He's the only real father I've ever known!"

Next, a status report from Joe K7ZG. Welcome back Joe, we missed you!

Like most folks I'm shy about disclosing my personal health information. At the same time, I understand the long-standing tradition of reporting members' Health and Welfare news in club minutes and the newsletter.

Here is a short summary that would be OK include in the Board Minutes for September:

"Joe K7ZG reports he spent one week in the hospital (St. Anthony' in Gig Harbor) in August for a breathing problem – shortness of breath – that limits Joe's ability to get around. Joe is now recovering slowly, but feeling better and improving day by day."

I finally made it to the clubhouse last Saturday for a very brief visit, just to sign in and say hello to old friends. I hope I can continue to attend some club activities in the future, to the extent I am able.

Thanks, and 73's

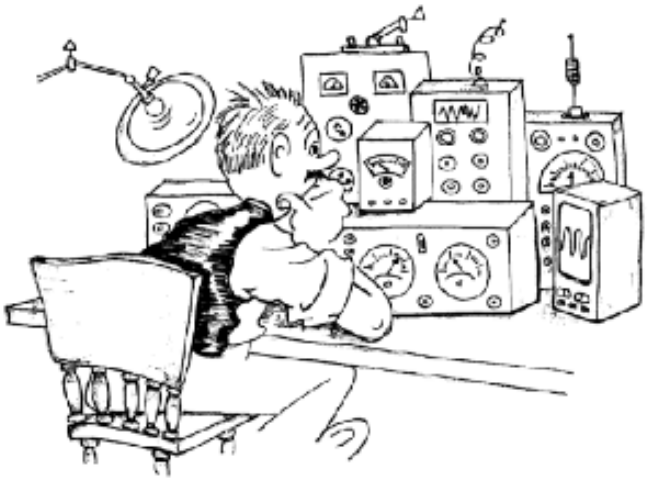
Joe Lester, K7ZG

Now, Randy WB4SPB with a remembrance of Worth.

Poking through Barkies, looking to see who was editor when, I stumbled across an article written by Worth: "Remembering Alfred Williams W7PUC", p4, January 2012.

This remembrance is a sterling example of Worth's eloquence and humanity.
73,
Randy

Now, an addition from Rich, KR7W. Anyone remember this? It was before my time!



Next: A request from our club Secretary Mike W7MKE.

A special meeting of the RCT Board of Directors will be held October 18th at 6:30 pm via Zoom for the sole purpose of considering proposed edits and possible changes to the Standing Rules. Members may attend this meeting like any other BOD meeting. Zoom Credentials are the same for this meeting as for regular BOD meetings.

Mike Drorbaugh -W7MKE RCT-Secretary

Last, but not least Mike W7XH with an update on the Salmon Run!

I wanted to again say THANK YOU, to all the members who supported Salmon Run 2023! We had 18 operators, 95 donors, and even some who even contacted us on the radio when a needed county became available.

The persistence of those who were able to capture all 39 counties , 50 states, and the 10 provinces and 3 territories of Canada.

We had an incredible response to our fundraiser! Details will be available in the October 4th board meeting minutes.

73, Mike W7XH

Your Club Donors

K7HTU	KD4VOM	NU7DX	K7FDR	W7XH	KJ7BDL	WA7RNX
K7DBU	K7APO	KB7UON	KA7WGE	KG7LNZ	KJ7CEZ	W7HUA
W7LKG	WB4SPB	N7OMS	W7MPC	K7PIA	AB7DG	K7CBE
K7HF	KK7VH	AC7WW	KF7FEF	KG7QXK	WA7BTC	WA7WJR
W7UUU	KD7QBE	AD7AV	KG7SV	N7TES	KJ7AKG	KK7FLZ
W0FLZ	KB7UON	AD7VL	F7KSW	N6TO	KJ7LSA	KJ7JCB
KA7IOX	N7OMS	AD7CC	W7XTZ	KG7ZYB	KJ7LEA	AD7MA
NU7G	AC7WW	K7ZG	KF7GPO	W7MKE	KJ7MPD	KK7HMZ
WG7X	AD7AV	WB7TVS	KF7SCB	KI7GOC	N5WAP	AH2CG
N7NCP	AD7VL	W7SIM	W7PFU	N9MII	AI7FP	KK7IJX
W7JC	AD7CC	KA7NWF	WB7EC	KI7LTV	KJ7SJM	KK7IJY
N7QOZ	K7ZG	NU7DX	W7MET	NL7BI	KH6WM	AI7RB
KA7DCX	WB7TVS	AD7WU	K6HSB	KI7LYU	AI7OZ	N7LJG
KC7AFO	W7SIM	WE7P	KD7SV	AA7KL	W7GAN	KD7VWM
AB7TW	KA7NWF	AE7PC	N7ANN	KC7PS	KJ7YSX	N6CHU
KK7NYV						

(Apologies to readers and W7XH but the spacing just did not work out right… Ed.)

The Mighty DK's!

Monthly QSO Report

Each month in the *Bark* the Radio Club of Tacoma recognizes the members and guests who have made non-contest QSOs using the HF stations at our club-house. Saturday Open House, especially, is a time when members have access to this equipment. Why not sit down at one of our operating desks and make a contact or two? Assistance is almost always available for those unfamiliar with the equipment, and if your license class doesn't permit HF operation, ask the denizens of the HF Room or the Saturday clubhouse host to help you find a suitably-licensed control operator to sit with you.

It's a feather in the club's hat for the call sign of **The Mighty DK** to be heard on the airwaves. So get on the air and get your name in the *Bark*! (Don't forget to enter your call sign as the operator into our logging program.)

Regular QSOs
Mike W7MKE: 3
Phil K7PIA: 11

Salmon Run QSOs

KK7IKK	1
W7ITL	1
KG7FZH	3
K7ZG	9
AD7LJ	9
KA7DCX	11
W7XTZ	12
N9MII	14
AD7MA	17
KK7IJY	31
W7MKE	39
N7OMS	44
W7XH	76
W2NCC	88
WG7X	119
K7PIA	119
K7MM	150
WB4SPB	231

Do you need help with some area in ham radio?

Here is a place……. First is the listing of areas of support,

followed by a list of members' areas of interest.

Elmer Board

Do you need help with some area in ham radio?
Here is a place……. First is the listing of areas of support, followed by a list of members' areas of interest.

	Name/Call Sign /Phone Number/ Topic
1.Technical questions, Classes	Adam W2NCC 360-870-7894 (4,5,6,7,11)
2. Help with Code	Al N7OMS 253-495-9068 (10,12)
3. License Examinations	Dave N7HT 253-363-1692 (1,2,4,6,8)
4. Antenna and Station planning	Dave W7UUU 253-820-0890 (2,4,6,9) and more
5. Antenna and Tower erection	Gary WG7X 253-327-0503 (1,4,5,6,8,9,10,11,12)
6. Buying new or used equipment	Mike W7XTZ 253-405-8095 (6,8,10)
7. Equipment repair	Phil K7PIA 253-307-4781 (9,10,12)
8. Understanding and operating your equipment	Randy WB4SPB 253-761-9391 (2)
9. DX and Contests	Stephen AD7AB 253-212-9437 (1,3,4,12)
10. Club and ARRL activities	Steve AF7YD 253-988-0878 (4,5,10,12)
11. Using test equipment	
12. IRLP , Digital, SDR, ARPS, Winlink,Vara, Satellite	

The Club LINEUP

Club Officers

President: Mike Mikuchonis –W7XTZ w7xtz©w7dk.org

Vice Pres: Adam Barbera, W2NCC - w2ncc©w7dk.org

Secretary: Mike Drorbaugh W7MKE - w7mke@w7dk.org

Treasurer: Steve Dightman, AF7YD - af7yd©w7dk.org

5 Board Members

Bruce Hanson, WE7P - we7p©w7dk.org

Paul Matney, W7PFU - w7pfu©w7dk.org

Doug Schafer AB7DG©w7dk.org

Red Cranefield, WB7EC - wb7ec©w7dk.org

Phil Pia, K7PIA - k7pia©w7dk.org

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Membership Info: FULL (licensed) and ASSOCIATE (non licensed) membership is $35 per calendar year or $30 for Licensed Seniors (65 and over). Licensed family members at same address pay $20 each for the first two and are free for the third, fourth, and so on. Full-time students, licensed or non licensed, up to age 25 are $20 per year. Note: fees are applicable for the calendar year: Jan to Dec. Lifetime membership is 20 times the yearly fee you are eligible for. Lifetime memberships are calculated based on the FULL and ASSOCIATE rates.

www.w7dk.org [LINK] - For the latest and most current information on events and activities, visit the Radio Club of Tacoma Website.

Radio Club Repeaters

Central Tacoma: 147.280 + PL=103.5

Crawford Mountain 147.380 + PL=103.5 (E of Olympia © 1500 ft ASL)

Central Tacoma: 440.625 + PL=103.5

North Tacoma: 145.21 – PL=141.3